

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Amended) A method of displaying image data bits, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving an image data word for an image pixel, said image data word comprised of a plurality of bits, wherein each bit of said data word has an associated time period within the image frame period;

dividing an image frame period into at least two refresh periods, each refresh period comprising a period in which bits of said image word are displayed in a same predetermined relative temporal order for each refresh period to reduce flicker, and wherein an accumulated time period associated with each bit over all the refresh periods equals the associated time period for the bit, although not all bits of the image data word are displayed in each refresh period, such that a viewer sees substantially the same image repeated for each refresh period of the frame period.

2. (Amended) A method of allocating a frame period to image data bits, wherein each image data bit of said data word has an associated time period within the frame period, said method comprising the steps of:

dividing a frame period into at least two refresh periods, each refresh period comprising a period in which at least two image data bits are displayed;

allocating a display period to each image data bit in an m-bit image data word;

determining the a minimum temporal frequency for each of said image data bits, said minimum temporal frequency necessary to prevent each said image data bit from appearing to flicker; and

displaying each said image data bit in enough of said refresh periods to achieve said minimum temporal frequency, wherein bits of said image word are displayed in a same predetermined relative temporal order for each refresh period to reduce flicker

and wherein an accumulated time period associated with each bit over all the refresh periods equals the associated time period for the bit, although ~~and~~ not all of said image data bits are displayed in all of said refresh periods, such that a viewer sees substantially the same image repeated for each refresh period of the frame period.

3. (Amended) A display system comprising:

a controller for receiving image data and processing said image data, said image data comprised of m image bits for each pixel of an image, said processing allocating a series of refresh periods to said image bits wherein an accumulated time period associated with each bit over all the refresh periods equals an associated time period for the bit for an image frame, although not all bits of said image ~~bits~~ word are displayed in each refresh period ~~the same number of said refresh periods~~, each refresh period comprising a period in which at least two image bits are displayed in a same predetermined relative temporal order for each refresh period to reduce flicker; and

a display device in electrical communication with said controller, said display device for providing a modulated light beam to each of an array of image pixels, said modulation in response to said processed image data from said controller.

4. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, said dividing comprising dividing an image frame period into at least three refresh periods wherein a first said image data bit is displayed during at least one said refresh period, a second said image data bit is displayed during at least two said refresh periods, and a third said image data bit is displayed during at least three said refresh periods.

5. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, said dividing comprising dividing an image frame period into at least three refresh periods wherein a first said image data bit is displayed during at least one said refresh period, a second said image data bit is displayed during at least two said refresh periods, and a third said image data bit is displayed during at least three said refresh periods and wherein said first,

second, and third image data bits are displayed during different numbers of refresh periods.

6. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 2, said dividing comprising dividing an image frame period into at least three refresh periods wherein a first said image data bit is displayed during at least one said refresh period, a second said image data bit is displayed during at least two said refresh periods, and a third said image data bit is displayed during at least three said refresh periods.

7. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 2, said dividing comprising dividing an image frame period into at least three refresh periods wherein a first said image data bit is displayed during at least one said refresh period, a second said image data bit is displayed during at least two said refresh periods, and a third said image data bit is displayed during at least three said refresh periods and wherein said first, second, and third image data bits are displayed during different numbers of refresh periods.

8. (Previously presented) The display of Claim 3, wherein a first said image data bit is displayed during at least one said refresh period, a second said image data bit is displayed during at least two said refresh periods, and a third said image data bit is displayed during at least three said refresh periods.

9. (Previously presented) The display of Claim 3, wherein a first said image data bit is displayed during at least one said refresh period, a second said image data bit is displayed during at least two said refresh periods, and a third said image data bit is displayed during at least three said refresh periods and wherein said first, second, and third image data bits are displayed during different numbers of refresh periods.

10 -12 (Canceled).